

What is claimed is:

1. A method of treating a livestock footbath solution comprising adding an alkali metal bisulfate to the solution.

5

2. A method according to claim 1 wherein the alkali metal bisulfate is sodium bisulfate.

3. A method according to claim 1 wherein the footbath is a cattle footbath.

10

4. A method according to claim 1 wherein the addition of the alkali metal bisulfate kills bacteria in the solution.

5. A method according to claim 1 wherein the addition of the alkali metal bisulfate kills bacteria on the hooves of the livestock.

15

6. A method according to claim 1 wherein the addition of the alkali metal bisulfate reduces the pH of the footbath solution to less than about 4.

7. A method according to claim 6 wherein the addition of the alkali metal bisulfate reduces the pH of the footbath solution to less than about 3.

20

8. A method according to claim 6 wherein the addition of the alkali metal bisulfate is effective for between about 250 and about 400 livestock uses of the footbath to keep the pH of the solution at a level less than about 4.

25

9. A method according to claim 1 wherein the alkali metal bisulfate is added to the solution at a level between about 10 lbs. and about 35 lbs. of alkali metal bisulfate per 50 gallons of water.

30

10. A method according to claim 9 wherein the alkali metal bisulfate is added to the solution at a level between about 15 lbs. and about 25 lbs. of alkali metal bisulfate per 50 gallons of water.

5 11. A method according to claim 1 wherein the alkali metal bisulfate contains less than about 0.01% heavy metals.

12. A method according to claim 11 wherein the alkali metal bisulfate contains less than about 0.003% heavy metals.

10 13. A method according to claim 1 wherein the alkali metal bisulfate has a Primary Irritation Index of less than about 3.

14. A method according to claim 13 wherein the alkali metal bisulfate has a  
15 Primary Irritation Index of less than about 2.

15. A method of treating a livestock footbath solution comprising adding to the solution a blend of an alkali metal bisulfate and a material to treat a bacterial disease.

20 16. A method according to claim 15 wherein the alkali metal bisulfate is sodium bisulfate.

17. A method according to claim 15 wherein the material to treat the  
25 bacterial disease is copper sulfate and/or zinc sulfate.

18. A method of treating a livestock footbath solution comprising rotating the addition to the solution of an alkali metal bisulfate and a material to treat a bacterial disease.

19. A method according to claim 18 wherein the alkali metal bisulfate is sodium bisulfate.

20. A method according to claim 18 wherein the material to treat the  
5 bacterial disease is copper sulfate and/or zinc sulfate.